

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 203253
ORIGIN EA-12

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DRAFTED BY EA/EX:J B MORAN:JWM
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EA ONLY

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R 102326Z AUG 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 203253

STADIS//////////

*9R AMBASSADOR ONLY FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AODE, APER

SUBJECT: PEACE CORPS MODE CEILING

REF: KUALA LUMPUR 2798 AND ALL PREVIOUS

1. I HAVE HAD SEVERAL CONVERSATIONS WITH THE PEACE CORPS
ACTING DIRECTOR RECENTLY REGARDING THEIR STAFFING LEVEL
IN MALAYSIA. IN THE PROCESS, I HAVE ALTERED YOUR AND
OUR PREVIOUS STAND. THEREFORE, WITH YOUR CONCURRENCE,
I WOULD LIKE TO SEND THE FOLLOWING LETTER.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

HONORABLE GRETCHEN M. HANDWERGER
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ACTING DIRECTOR
PEACE CORPS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20525

DEAR GRETCHEN:

YOUR LETTER OF JULY 13, 1978, INDICATES THAT YOU HAVE

REPLACED ONE AMERICAN CONTRACT MEDICAL OFFICER IN MALAYSIA
WITH A HOST COUNTRY NATIONAL WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT
THIS ACTION WOULD FULFILL THE PEACE CORPS OBLIGATION TO

REDUCE ONE AMERICAN POSITION. ALTHOUGH CONTRACT
PERSONNEL ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THE MODE CEILING, IN VIEW
OF THE EXPECTED CHANGES IN PEACE CORPS OPERATIONS IN
MALAYSIA INVOLVING AN INCREASE IN THE VOLUNTEER
POPULATION, I AM INCLINED TO ACCEPT YOUR POSITION THAT
REDUCTION OF THE AMERICAN CONTRACT EMPLOYEE WILL SUFFICE
FOR THE TIME BEING. HOWEVER, I AM SURE YOU REALIZE
THAT PRESSURES TO REDUCE OVERSEAS EMPLOYMENT ARE INTENSE
AND THAT IT MAY BECOME NECESSARY TO CUT ONE MORE PEACE
CORPS POSITION IN MALAYSIA TO COMPLY WITH THE OVERALL
MODE CEILING REDUCTION GOALS. I WILL ADVISE YOU IF
FURTHER ACTION BECOMES NECESSARY. SINCERELY,
RICHARD HOLBROOKE. END TEXT.

3. PLEASE ADVISE. VANCE

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